Microsoft Corporation

Microsoft Corporation is a **multinational computer technology corporation** with global annual revenue of **US$44.28 billion** and **76,000 employees** in **102 countries**. It develops, manufactures, licenses, and supports a wide range of software products for computing devices. Headquartered in **Redmond**, **Washington, USA**, its best selling products are the **Microsoft Windows** operating system and the **Microsoft Office** suite of productivity software. These have all achieved near-ubiquity in the desktop computer market, approaching fulfillment of Microsoft's original goal, "A computer on every desk and in every home, running Microsoft software."Microsoft possesses footholds in other markets; with assets such as the **MSNBC cable television network**, the **MSN Internet portal**, and the **Microsoft Encarta multimedia encyclopedia**. The company also markets both computer hardware products such as the **Microsoft mouse** as well as home entertainment products such as the **Xbox**, **Xbox 360**, **Zune** and **MSN TV**.

History & Achievements

The History & Achievements of Microsoft Corporation can be defined in four stages of development

- **Stage – I (1975–1985: The founding of Microsoft)**

Bill Gates known as the creator of the new **microcomputer, Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems,** offering to demonstrate an implementation of the BASIC programming language for the system. Gates left Harvard University, moved to **Albuquerque, New Mexico** where **MITS** was located and founded Microsoft there. The company's **first international office** was founded on **November 1, 1978**, in **Japan**, entitled "**ASCII Microsoft**" (now called "**Microsoft Japan**"). On **January 1, 1979**, the company moved from Albuquerque to a new home in **Bellevue, Washington**.

A **DOS (Disk Operating System)** was the operating system that brought the company its real success. On **August 12, 1981**, after negotiations with Digital Research failed, **IBM** awarded a contract to **Microsoft** to provide a version of the **CP/M operating system**, which was set to be used in the upcoming **IBM Personal Computer (PC)**. For this deal, Microsoft purchased a **CP/M** clone called **QDOS (Quick and Dirty Operating System)** from Tim Paterson of Seattle Computer Products, which IBM renamed to PC-DOS. Later, the market saw a flood of IBM PC clones after Columbia Data Products successfully cloned the IBM BIOS, and through aggressive marketing of their own QDOS derivative, MS-DOS, to manufacturers of IBM-PC clones Microsoft rose from a small player to one of the major software vendors in the home computer industry. The company expanded into new markets

with the release of the **Microsoft Mouse** in **1983**, as a well as a publishing division named Microsoft Press.

- **Stage – II (1985–1995: OS/2 and the rise of Windows)**

On **November 20, 1985**, Microsoft released its first retail version of **Microsoft Windows**. Originally,

Graphical extension for its MS-DOS operating system. In August, Microsoft and IBM partnered in the development of a different operating system called **OS/2**. Around one month later, on **March 13**, the company went **public with an IPO**, priced at **US$28.00**. In **1987**, Microsoft eventually released their first version of **OS/2 to OEMs**.

In **1989**, Microsoft introduced its **office product** named **Microsoft Office**. Microsoft Office is a bundle of separate office productivity applications, such as **Microsoft Word**, **Microsoft Excel** and so forth. On **May 22, 1990** Microsoft launched **Windows 3.0.**The new version of Microsoft's operating system boasted such new features as streamlined user **interface graphics** and improved protected mode capability for the **Intel 386 processor**; it **sold over 100,000 copies in two weeks**. Windows at the time generated more revenue for Microsoft than OS/2, and the company decided to move more resources from **OS/2 to Windows**. In the ensuing years, the popularity of OS/2 declined, and **Windows quickly became the favored PC platform.**

In **1993** Microsoft released **Windows NT 3.1**, a **server-based operating system** with a similar user interface to consumer versions of the operating system, but with an entirely different kernel. In **1995**, **Microsoft released Windows 95**, a new version of the company's **flagship operating system** which featured a completely **new user interface**, including a **novel start button**; more than a **million copies of Microsoft Windows 95** were sold in the **first four days** after its release. The company later released its web browser named **Internet Explorer**.

- **Stage – III (1995–2005: The Internet & XP)**

In the **mid-90s**, Microsoft began to expand its product line into computer networking and the **World Wide Web**. On **August 24, 1995**, it launched a major online service**, MSN (Microsoft Network),** as a direct competitor to AOL. MSN became an umbrella service for Microsoft's online services. The company continued to branch out into new markets in 1996, starting with a joint venture with NBC to create a new 24/7 cable news station, **MSNBC**. Microsoft entered the personal digital assistant (PDA) market in November with **Windows CE 1.0**, a new built-from-scratch version of their flagship operating system, specifically designed to run on low-memory, low-performance machines, such as handhelds and other small computers. Later in **1997**, **Internet Explorer 4.0** was released for both **Mac OS**

and **Windows**, marking the beginning of the takeover of the browser market from rival Netscape.

The year **1998** was significant in Microsoft's history, with **Bill Gates** appointing **Steve Ballmer** as **president of Microsoft** but remaining as Chair and CEO himself. The company released **Windows 98**, an **update** to **Windows 95** that incorporated a number of Internet-focused features and support for new types of devices. In **2001**, Microsoft released **Windows XP**, the first version that encompassed the features of both its business and home product lines. **XP introduced a new graphical user interface**, the first such change since Windows 95.Later, Microsoft would enter the **multi-billion-dollar game** console market dominated by Sony and Nintendo, with the release of the **Xbox**.

- **Stage – IV(2005–2007: Vista and more transitions)**

In **2006 Bill Gates** announced a **two year transition period** from his role as **Chief Software Architect**, which would be taken by **Ray Ozzie**, and planned to remain the company's chairman, head of the Board of Directors and act as an adviser on key projects. **Windows Vista** is **Microsoft's latest operating system**, released in **January 2007**. **Microsoft Office 2007** was released at the same time; its "**Ribbon**" user interface is a significant departure from its predecessors.

Products

In order to get the best output Microsoft has been divided into three divisions.

1. **Microsoft Platform Products and Services Divisions.**

The following products are produced under this division; this is the most important division of Microsoft.

Operating System’s	Utilities	Software Development

Windows **3.1**. Windows **95**. Windows **98**. Windows **2000**. Windows **2000 server**. Windows **Me**. Windows **Server 2003**. Windows **XP**. Windows **Vista**.	MSN **Hotmail**. MSN **Messenger**. Microsoft **online magazine**. Windows **Live Messenger**. The online service **MSN**. The cable television station **MSNBC**.	Microsoft Visual Studio**.NET**. **SQL Server**. **Exchange Server**.

2. **Microsoft Business Division.**

   The Microsoft Business Division produces Microsoft Office, which is the company's line of office software.

No.	Microsoft Office	Function
1.	**Microsoft Word**	A Word Processor.
2.	**Microsoft Access**	A Personal Relational Database Application.
3.	**Microsoft Excel**	A Spreadsheet Program.
4.	**Microsoft Outlook.**	Exchange Server (Organizer).
5.	**Microsoft Power Point**	Presentation Software.
6.	**Microsoft Front Page**	A HTML Editor.
7.	**Microsoft Publisher**	Desktop Publishing Software
8.	**Microsoft Visio**	Visual Representation Software.
9.	**Microsoft Project**	Project Related Software
10.	**Microsoft InfoPath**	-
11.	**Microsoft OneNote**	-

3. **Microsoft Entertainment and Devices Division**

   The Entertainment and Devices Division of Microsoft includes following things

No.	Entertainment Hardware	Entertainment Software
1.	**Microsoft Xbox 360**	**Age of Empires**
2.	**Windows CE**	**Halo**
3.	**Windows Mobile**	**Microsoft Flight Simulator**
4.	**MSN TV**	**Microsoft Zone**

5.	**Digital Video Recorder (DVR)**	**-**

Information

The Head office of **Microsoft** is in **USA**, there are **71,172** employees working, with offices all over the world including **Pakistan**. Founded in **1975**, Microsoft (**Nasdaq "MSFT"**) is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. More information is given below.

• Board of Directors

No.	Name	Information
1.	**Steven A. Ballmer**	**Chief Executive Officer, Microsoft Corporation**
2.	**James I. Cash Jr. Ph.D.**	**Professor, Harvard Business School**
3.	**Dina Dublon**	**Former Chief Financial Officer, JPMorgan Chase**
4.	**William H. Gates III**	**Chairman, Microsoft Corporation**
5.	**Raymond V. Gilmartin**	**Former Chairman, President and CEO, Merck .Inc**
6.	**David F. Marquardt**	**General Partner, August Capital**
7.	**Charles H. Noski**	**Former Vice Chairman, AT&T Corporation**
8.	**Dr. Helmut Panke**	**Former Chairman, BMW AG**
9.	**Jon A. Shirley**	**Former President and Chief Operating Officer, Microsoft Corporation**

• Location & Operation Centers

The Information about the Location & Operation centers is given below

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Microsoft Corporation

Head Office	Microsoft Corporation One Microsoft Way Redmond, WA 98052-7329 USA Tel: (425) 882-8080 Fax: (425) 706-7329 Web site: http://www.microsoft.com	
Operation Centers	**Role**	**Location**
	Licensing, Manufacturing, Operations and Logistics.	Dublin, Ireland
	Manufacturing	Humacao, Puerto Rico, USA
	Licensing and Operations	Reno, Nevada, USA
	Operations and Logistics	Singapore

- **Functional Breakout (Worldwide)**

Role	Employees
Business Group	*34,557*
Sales & Marketing Support Group	*33,637*
Operations Group	*2,978*

- **Revenue and Headcount**

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Microsoft Corporation

Headcount & Revenue Growth

Fiscal Year Ending	Head Count	Net Revenue (US$)	Growth	Net Income (US$)	Growth
June 30, 2006	71,172	$44.28B	11%	$12.60B	3%
June 30, 2005	61,000	$39.79B	8%	$12.25B	50%
June 30, 2004	57,086	$36.84B	14%	$8.17B	8%
June 30, 2003	54,468	$32.19B	13%	$7.53B	29%
June 30, 2002	50,621	$28.37B	12%	$5.35B	-28%
June 30, 2001	48,030	$25.30B	10%	$7.35B	-22%
June 30, 2000	39,170	$22.96B	16%	$9.42B	21%
June 30, 1999	31,575	$19.75B	29%	$7.79B	73%
June 30, 1998	27,055	$15.26B	28%	$4.49B	30%
June 30, 1997	22,232	$11.94B	32%	$3.45B	57%
June 30, 1996	20,561	$9.05B	49%	$2.20B	51%

The End